

July 17, 2003

The Honorable William M. Thomas  
Chairman  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thomas:

We commend you for committing to introduce legislation to reform the international tax provisions of U.S. tax law and to make other tax changes that promote U.S. jobs and competitiveness. In particular, we appreciate your inclusion of the proposal to significantly reduce the time period for the depreciation of leasehold improvements. Your legislation addresses fundamental inequities facing U.S. taxpayers that undermine the competitiveness of U.S. companies.

Enactment of your legislation will have a positive impact on the domestic economy. As you know, economic studies have demonstrated the important role that U.S. corporations play in building our economy and creating and preserving American jobs. Your bill will help level the playing field, enhance the ability of U.S. companies to compete in global markets, and strengthen our domestic economy.

On behalf of the 43,000+ members of The International Council of Shopping Centers, we thank you for your leadership, and we offer to you our support and assistance.

Sincerely,

The International Council of Shopping Centers

Wayne Mehlman  
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